Supply of rice.

84 *MR. A. K. KUMARAN VAIDYAN: Will the Government be pleased to state whether, in view of the difficulty of obtaining rice from Cochin, arrangements have been made to ensure adequate supply of rice to the inhabitants of Parur and Kunnatnad taluks?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: Necessary arrangements are being made for the supply of rice to these and other taluks.

Importation of Rice.

85 * MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether they have taken steps to facilitate the importation of rice from outside the State; and

(*b*) if so, the measures adopted by the Government in this connection?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A quota has been secured for the State from the available surplus production in the Tanjore area, and arrangements have been made for the issue of permits under the Madras Government Grain Control Ordinance to importers in this State for removing stocks from the said areas. Steps have also been taken for procuring Railway facilities for the transportation of the rice purchased for consumption in the country.

MR. P. NARAYANA PILLAI: May I know whether any quantity has been imported after the quota has been settled?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: I have received intimation that permits have been issued by the Trichinopoly Food Grains Controller for the transport of 85,000 bags of rice to Travancore.

MR. K. KUNJU PANICKER: May I know whether Government have made any arrangements on their own accord under their direction and control for securing rice?

RAJYASEVAPRAVINA G. PARAMESWARAN PILLAI: All these arrangements are made by Government. Licenses are issued by Government to the merchants and only those merchants who have got licenses will be given permission to transport rice from British India to Travancore.

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